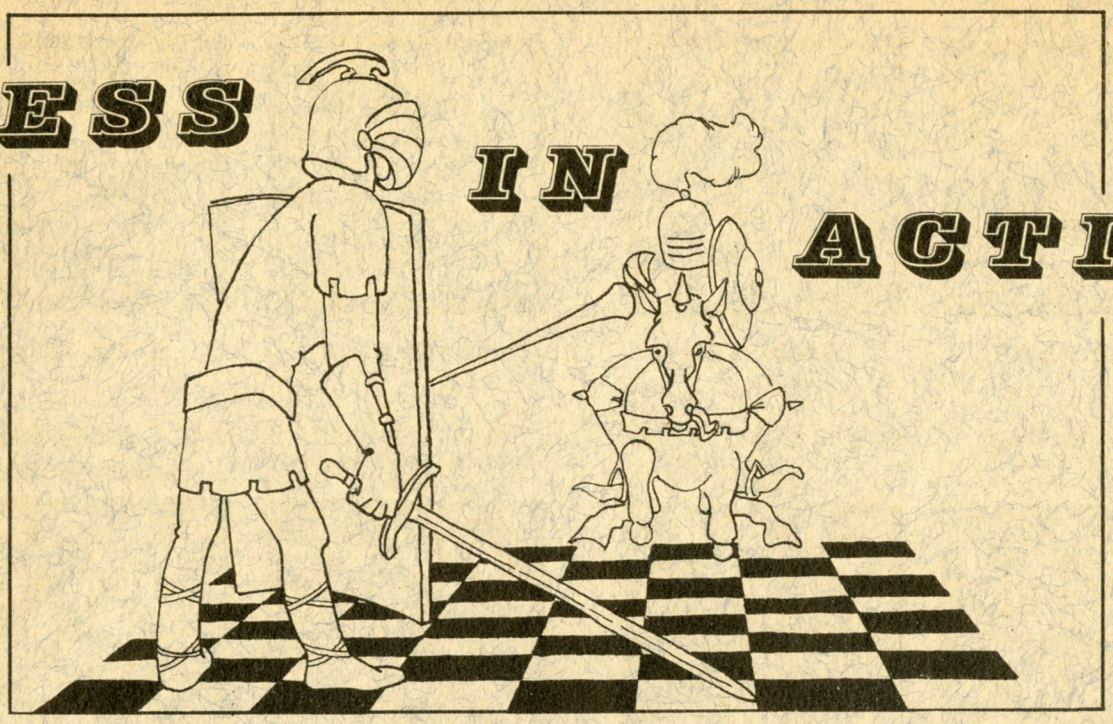
CHESS IN ACTION



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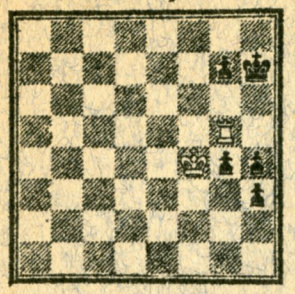
EDITORIAL

This month we are introducing to you for the first time in this magazine, approaches to enjoyment of some of the lesser known facets of Chess. That is, the collection of chess sets, or individual chessmen from sets that have been broken up over the centuries that have passed since chess first began; the making of large-scale chessmen for the Patio-living era of our California heritage. These we have mixed with the usual pottage of local news, editorial nonsense, with a measure of seriousness for those who take their pleasures more seriously. We try to cater to all chess tastes and we hope we are getting better in this respect. If any of you feels he is being neglected, let us know and we will see what can be done.

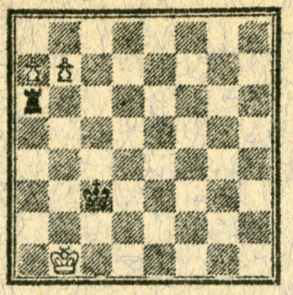
The Editor

I a — H. Rinck
Schackvärlden 1937
Mention spéciale



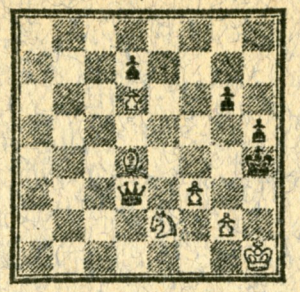
Black draws

I b — Kérès-Eliskases
Noordwijk 1938



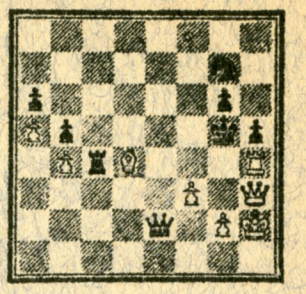
Black draws

II a — H. Rinck
« La Patrie Suisse »
1934-1935, 1er Prix



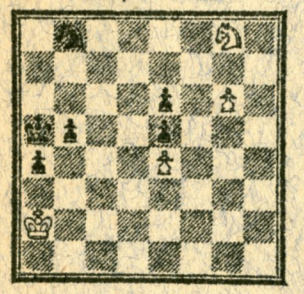
White wins

II b — Jung-Szabados
Venise 1952



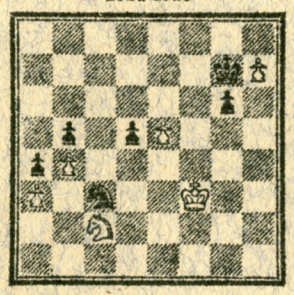
White wins

III a — H. Rinck
« Italia Scacchistica »
1920, 3e Prix



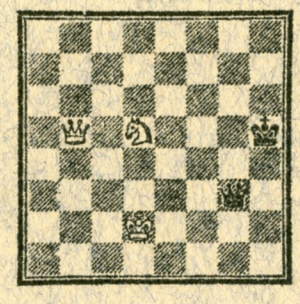
White wins

III b — Wolf-Dr Balogh
Correspondance
1924-1925



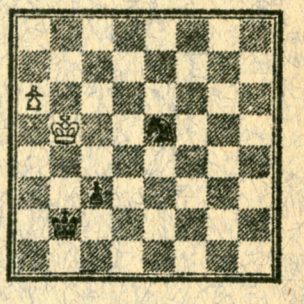
White wins

IV a — H. Rinck
Deutsche Schachzeitung
1911



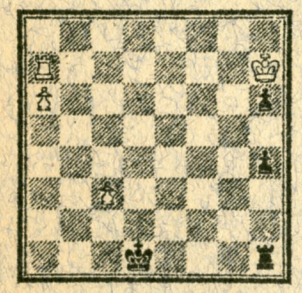
White wins

IV b — O'Kelly-Kieninger
Oldenburg 1949



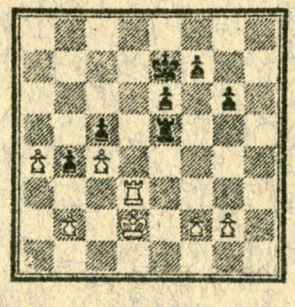
Black to play and win

V a — H. Rinck
« Club de Budapest »
Pr. I 1911



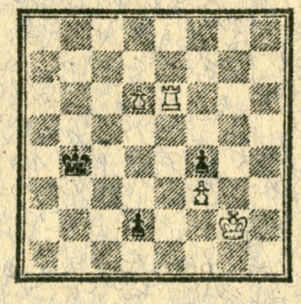
White wins

V b — Alekhine-Amateur
Simultanée Groningen
1933



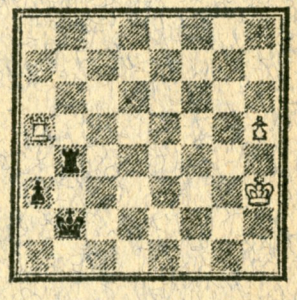
White wins

V c — H. Rinck
« La Stratégie » 1920



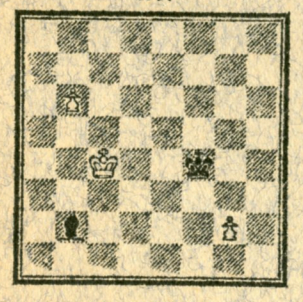
White wins

VII a — Tarrasch-Blümich
Breslau 1925



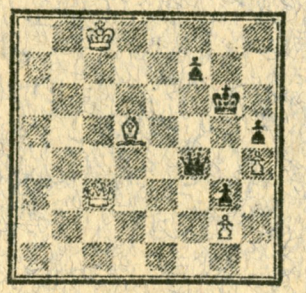
White draws

VI a — H. Rinck
« Basler Nachrichten »
1937



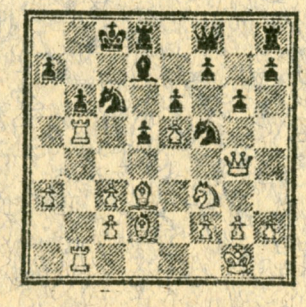
White wins

VI b — Hering-Kozma
Marianske-Lazne 1959



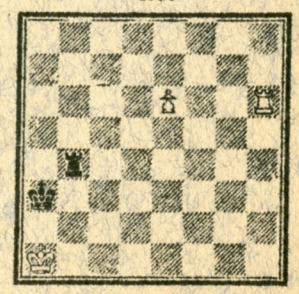
White wins

VI c — Botez-Cretulescu
Bucarest 1953



White wins

VII b — H. Rinck
« Basler Nachrichten »
1930



White wins

THE GENIUS OF HENRI RINCK *

I a

1. ... h2; 2. Rh5+, Kg8; 3. Rxh4, g5+; 4. Kxg5, g3; 5. Kf6, g2; 6. Rg4+, Kh7; Rh4+, Kg8; 8. Rg4+, Kf8; 9. Ra4, Ke8; 10. Ke6, Kd8; 11. Kd6, Kc8; 12. Kc6, Kb8; 13. Rb4+, Ka7; 14. Ra4+, Kb8; draw.

I b

1. ... Rb6+; 2. Kc1, Rh6; 3. Kd1, Kd3; 4. Ke1, Ke3; 5. Kf1, Kf3; 6.Kg1, Rg6+; 7. Kh2, Rh6+; 8. Kg1, Rg6+; 9. Kf1, Rh6; draw. This idea is often met. The oldest example in compositions is attributed to an 1851 study by Kling and Horwitz.

Having now shown you a composition of Henri Rinck's and an actual game that took place the following year, who can say whether or not knowledge of the composition in question (or a prior one) influenced the Keres-Eliskases game.

We know that actual games inspire composers of problems and end-game studies, furnishing them with ideas for their creations. Occasionally, it is the composition that gives the winning idea to the practical player. One often sees an actual game "anticipated" by an end-game study. However, it is ture that the opposite is more common. We hope that the following examples related to the great composer Henri Rinck will be of interest (and possibly too of profit) to you.

II a

1. Bf6+, g5; 2. Kh2, Qxe2; 3. Bc3! Qf2; 4. Be5!, with the continuation that can be seen in the actual game that follows.

II b

1. Bxg7, Rxh4; 2. Qxh4+!!, Kxh4; 3. Bf6+, g5; 4. Bc3!, Qf2; 5. Be5! and wins. The repeated sacrifices of a White Knight. This simple idea if also found in a position of Damiana in 1512.

III a

1. Ne7, Nd7!; 2. Nc6+, Kb6; 3. Nxef, Nf6; 4. Nd7+, Nxd7; 5. e5 (±). Three echoed sacrifices of a White Knight in order to Queen a pawn. The end is reached by the fact that the square e5 has been freed by the decisive blow: 5. e4 - e5.

III b

1. e6, Ne4; 2. e7, Nd6!; Nd4, Kxh7; 4. Nxb5, Ne8; 5. Nc7!, Nxc7; 6. b5, Kg7; 7. b6 and wins. This study is not too dissimilar to one by Troitzki.

And now for a short break!!!!!

In translating the coordinate notation, from the French to the English, there is no problem with the a1 - h8 etc. but the letter designating the pieces has, in all cases, to be changed. And this is not too easy because the R in the French stands for Roi, or King, and is esily confused by the man whose first language is English, as being Rook. So, just to give you a clue as to what has probably happened, if one of these studies just does not make sense, here are the differences in notation:

English	French
Knight = N or Kt	Cavalier = C
Bishop = B	Fou = F
Rook = R	Tour = T
King = K	Roi = R
Queen = Q	Dame = D

Okay ?????

IV a

1. Qe8+, Kg5 (if 1. ... Kh4 (or Kh6); 2. Qh8+, etc); 2. Qg8+, Kh4; 3. Qh7+, Kg5!; 4. Qg7+, Kh4; 5. Qh6+, Kg4; 6. Ne3+, Kf3; 7. Qh5+, Kf2; 8. Qe2+, Kg1; 9. Qd1+!, Kh2 (Kf2); 10. Nf1+ (Qf1 mate).

If 1. Qe8+, Kg4, then 2. Ne3+, Kg5; (2. ... Kh3; 3. Qe6+); 3. Qg8+, Kf4; 4. Qf7+, Kg5!; 5. Qg7+, Kf4; 6. Qf6+, Ke4; 7. Qf5+, Kd4; 8 Qd5 mate.

continued further on somewhere.....

***

HOW WILLY NILLY BECAME A KING

(A "Chess in Action" exclusive)

Ever since little six-year old Willy Nilly took the part of a King in a children's pantomime, he was obsessed with the idea of one day becoming a real king.

"What are you going to be when you grow up?" people would ask. They would laugh when Willy replied in his confident way, "A King.".

One good thing this "Regalphobia" did for Willy, was to stimulate his thirst for knowledge far beyond the modest demands of his schoolteachers, especially knowledge that might further his regal pretentions. For instance, he studied many languages with phonograph records, law, civics, etc. He shone at history, especially the history of European kings. And also at Geography, which was, to him, merely research into the many lands and peoples who might someday require a King. For Willy was practical enough to realise that, having been born of humble parents, he would have to content himself with being a king of a very very small country.

After Willy had graduated and was ready for life in the outside world, he made the eounds of those employment agencies specializing in overseas positions. But there were no people or governments looking for a king of any sort, let alone a king of foreign birth.

Next, Willy wrote to all the dictators of the world and, while he received some very courteous letters in reply, there were obviously very few ideas going around for restoring or recreating monarchies.

So, Willy decided to set out and seek a kingship himself. He travelled all over Europe, Asia, and Africa but no one, just no one, needed a king. Indeed, here and there, Willy found quite a few born kings looking for jobs.

Only when Willy reached South America, did he receive any encouragement. In Buenos Aires, he was told that there were some tribes in the heart of the Matto Grosso and in the Upper Reaches of the Amazon who had been known to make kings of white men. So he decided to investigate and set off for the heart of Brazil.

* * * * * * *

Some few months later, the Barao de Boicininga was sitting in his palacete in the Catete, in Rio de Janeiro, showing his friend the Visconde de Vatapa his wonderful collection of chessmen. There were Chinese sets with faces of rats, Indian sets, Persian sets, Florentine, Spanish, and Staunton sets. There were also a number of unique sets that the Barao had picked up from various parts of the world, like Easter Island, made out of ivory, hardwood, quartz, and many precious stones.

Suddenly, in rushes a dark-skinned Brazilian holding out a box which apparently contained something of considerable interest and value to the Barao, for his eyes gleamed with the fanaticism of a collector and he was profuse in his praise for the dark man's skills and accomplishments

continued elsewhere.....

CHAMPAGNE CHESS

White: M. Tahl Black: B. Larson

PORTOROZ, 1958

Annotated by Dave Bogdanoff and Bob Dickinson.

1. P-K4 P-QB4
2. N-KB3 P-Q3
3. P-Q4 PxP
4. NxP N-KB3
5. N-QB3 P-QR3
6. B-N5

Fischer likes 6. B-QB4. Other alternatives are 6. B-K3, 6. B-K2, and the violent ¢. P-B3.

6. ... QN-Q2

Also to be considered are 6. ... N-QB3 and 6. ... P-K3.

7. B-QB4

Played in the usual aggressive Tahl style.

7. ... Q -R4

Threatening both QxB and NxP. So,

8. Q-Q2 P-K3
9. 0-0

9. 0-0-0 is not good because of 9. ... P-N4. For example, if 10. B-Q3, there follows 10. ... P-N5, winning easily for Black, as White's QRP falls.

9. ... P-R3

Black subtly prepares for a King-side attack.

10. B-R4 B-K2
11. QR-Q1 N-K4

This is in accordance with Black's plan for a king-side attack. Note that Black cannot play 11. ... NxP, since there follows 12. NxN, QxQ; 13. RxQ, BxB; 14. NxPch, K-B1; 15. NxB, RxN; 16. NxPch, PxN; 17. BxP and White wins.

12. B-QN3 P-KN4

Black starts a quick king-side attack.

13. B-N3 B-Q2
14. P-B4 PxP (Move is forced).
15. BxBP N-R4
16. BxN

16. BxP, N-N5 is much too dangerous for White.

16. ... QxB
17. K-R1

If N-B3 immediately, then Black plays Q-B5. The exchange of queens gives Black the superior end-game, while a queen move allows Black to gain time.

17. ... N-B3
18. N-B3 Q-KR4
19. P-K5!?

White attempts to capture the initiative forcibly.

19. ... PxP
20. N-K4? 0-0-0??

Black can win by the dangerous looking move 19. ... NxN. After 20. QxB, K-B1, the following are some of the variations:

(1) 21. BxP, R-Q1 and Black wins.
(2) 21. NxN, QxN; 22. BxP, N-B3 and Black wins.
(3) 21. P-N4, QxNP; 22. NxKP, N-N6ch; 23. PxN, Q-R6ch; 24. K-N1, B-B4ch; 25. R-B2, QxPch and wins for Black.

Although White appears to have a won game, it is apparent, after an examination of the variations, that it is Black, and not White, who will win.

21. N-N3 Q-N5
22. NxP Q-KR5
23. Q-B3ch Q-N1

Black is lost, no matter what he does.

24. NxBch. Resigns

In this game, it is seen that even the best chess players fail to take advantage of their opponent's mistakes. It is also seen that moves should not be disregarded simply because they are "dangerous-looking"; variations must be examined before a move is determined to be good or bad.

****

January 16, 1960

White Jerry Peterson — Black Raymond Ausmus

1. P-Q4, P-K3; 2. P-K4, P-QN3;
3. N-QB3, B-N5; 4. P-K5, B-N2;
5. Q-N4, N-K2; 6. N-B3, N-N3;
7. B-Q3, 0-0; 8. P-KR4, R-K1;
9. P-R5, N-R1; 10. B-R6, B-B1;
11. BxP, BxB; 12. P-R6, N-N3;
13. PxB, KxP; 14. Q-R5, R-R1;
15. N-R4, N-B3; 16. N-K2, QN-K2;
17. P-KB4, Q-KN1 ?? 18. Q-R6ch! KxQ
19. N-B5 mate.

****

DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE OF CHESS IN ACTION IN WHICH WILL APPEAR SOME INTERESTING ANNOTATIONS OF GAMES, BY ERIK OSBUN.

MAKE YOUR OWN GIANT CHESSMEN FOR PATIO PLAY

Making a set of chessmen is not an easy task, even when the peices in question are small. When the pieces are two to four feet high, for use on an outdoor board, on the patio or by the swimming pool, or maybe perhaps only for decoration, the task appears almost to great even to consider. The write has, however, devised a simple and inexpensive way to make large-sized chessmen or other garden figures. Furthermore, they are made of reinforced concrete and, as such, are quite permanent.

One should, of course, unless the simple Staunton pattern is to be used, make models of the pieces, in clay, wax, plasticine, or balsa wood. This is not too difficult, for there are only 6 pieces to make as models. The next step is to obtain some Ready-mixed morter - this is finer than the ready-mix cement and does not contain the pebbles which would be unsuitable. Also, a bale of small meshed chicken wire.

The Rooks are the simplest of the pieces so we will start with these. Cut out four equal lengths of chicken wire and bend them into four cones wiring the edges together. Enclose the tops, a few inches from the top edges of the chicken wire and then, six inches or so down the cone, squeeze the wire together so that we have four equal Rook-shaped pieces of chicken wire. With a little extra wire mesh, form the castellations.

The next step is to stuff the Rooks with balls of newspaper. This is to prevent the cement or mortar falling through the wire. Then mix your mortar and slosh it on to the sides and top, beginning at the bottom and working up. Don't worry if it looks a mess but try and get it as even as possible and try and get all the wire covered. If the wire sags with the weight, let the bottom part partially dry and stiffen before working higher. Let the first coat dry for a few days. Then apply a second coat, trying, this time, to get a nice even oovering to all four Rooks with nicely modelled tops.

When this has dried, lay the Rooks on their sides and cover the bottoms with a good thick (for weight) layer of cement. By scraping and applying, eventually you will be able to get some respectable looking pieces of considerable weight and strength - at least too heavy for them to be easily stolen.

The same procedure can then be followed with the Knights, Bishops, Kings and Queens (the royals can be made together with modifications of the crowns). Lastly come the Pawns.

On the asumption that the pieces are about 4 foot high, they will weigh 50 to 60 lbs apiece. This is too heavy for you to move them as they are so we must plan a smooth cement "board". From the hardware store obtain some of the new type of roller castor they sell which is a large ball-bearing encased about 60% in a socket to which is affixed a heavy nail. Drive three of these castors into the bases of each piece and you will find that moving them is not at all difficult.

Chess Gateposts, of even greater size, can also be made in a similar manner (but with permanent bases).

Lighter chessmen can be made of equal permanence but at greater cost by using fibreglass instead of cement. Make the chiken wire skeletons in the same way but do not stuff with paper. Coat with numerous small pieces of fibreglass in the same manner as people fibreglass the bottoms of boats.

***** ***** ***** *****

HOW TO ORGANIZE AND MANAGE A SUCCESSFUL CHESS CLUB

by

DAN B. McLEOD

In response to a suggestion in the last issue of "Chess in Action", Dan McLeod wrote us a very appreciative letter in which he discussed what he believes to be the ingredients for success in building up a Chess Club. We will now quote directly from Dan's letter:

You ask me for my ideas on what makes a successful chess club, and I believe we have such a club here in San Bruno. By the words "successful chess club" I mean strong in membership rather than in playing strength.

By and large, you will find that you have two types of people in a club. There are the ones who are the serious students of the game, i.e. who study, analyze, and only eant to play serious chess. On the other hand, you have the people who just play for the fun, recreation, or the social part of a club night. A good Director, President, or Board of Directors will cater to both types with club championships, Rapid Transits, beginners tournaments, and leave a month or two in the year with nothing planned so that the members can relax and just play chess.

What you have to remember is that the most important member of your club is the new member. You must approach him at once, inform him of the club's policy, activities, and, most of all, you must rid him of the idea that he is not a good enough player to join the club.

I also believe that a club should collect dues. This gives your club officials a little financial backing and they will be more apt to sponsor club tournaments with prizes and send out more notices to the club members. Here, at San Bruno, we collect monthly dues of 25¢.

Don't let your club become tied up with too many official club meetings, readings of the minutes, electing committees, etc. People comes to a chess club to play chess, so let them do just that.

A must for any Chess Club is a publicity man - one who will regularly write chess articles for the local papers. The San Bruno Chess Club is most fortunate in having such a man, Dick Farris by name, who is doing a great job. We have found these articles to be the best way of attractinh new members.

As we all know, a club can only be as good as its members want it to be. I have been lucky enough to have such people in our club as John Conness, H.G.Kline, Lou Tomori, and Saul Udman to help out when it is needed. This helping out can be anything from emptying ash trays to acting as secretary-treasurer or tournament director for the club.

I hope that this letter will be of some help to you and other Chess Friends.

oooooooooOOOoooooooo

CHESS FRIENDS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA Secretary: Mrs Virginia McGinley, 2763 Chelsea Drive, Oakland 11, California. Field Director: George Koltanowski, International Master and Blindfold Champion, 3049 Laguna Street, San Francisco, 23, California (JOrdan 7-2410). Ratings Director: Chuck McGinley, 2763 Chelsea Drive, Oakland 11, Calif.; Tournament Director: William S. Stevens, 2005 - 35th Avenue, San Francisco, California. Editor of Chess in Action, John E. Almond, 14 Bates Blvd., Orinda, California. A PAWN IS A PAWN IS A PAWN IS A PAWN IS A

IV b

One sees the same manoeuvre of gain here.
1. ... c2!; 2. a7, c1Q; 3. a8Q, Qc4+; 4. Kb6, Nd7+; 5. Ka7 (or 5. Kb7, Qd5+), Qa2+; 6. Kb7, Qd5+; 7. Ka7, Qa5+; 8. Kb7, Nc5+; 9. Kb8, Qd8+; 10. Ka7, Qc7+; and then mate. The continuation played in the actual game was more prosaic: 1. ... Nc6!; 2. Kxc6, c2; 3. a7, c1Q+; 4. Kb7, Qh1+, etc.

And now for another break, during which time we pour ourselves out a highball and wonder whether anyone will ever struggle through this article which represents so much work!!!! And then it occurs to us that possibly too, we may have some readers who have not met this coordinate notation and might not quite understand it so we will try and give a very short but succinct explanation of it. If you are sitting in the position over the chessboard where White usually sits, your white men are ranged on the squares that are numbered from left to right and beginning with the major pieces, a1, b1, c1, d1, e1, f1, g1, h1 and then the pawns are on a2, b2, etc to h2. Black's men are on a7 - h7 (pawns) and a8 - h8 (pieces). Back to work!!!

V a

Obstruction is the idea behind the following study: the Rook sacrifices itself to block the opposing Rook.
1. Rg7, Kc2 (if 1. ... Rh2 (Rh3); 2. Rg1+, followed by 3. Ra1 and the advance of the a Pawn.

If 1. ... Re1, then 2. Rg1, Rxg1; 3. a7±); To continue, 2. Rg2+, Kb3!; 3. Ra2, Kxa2; 4. a7 and wins.

V b

In the position of Alekhine, the idea is repeated in two variations.
1. g4! (against the menace of 1. ...Rh5 and 2. ... Rh8), Re4; 2. a5, Rxg4; 3. a6, Rh4 (if 3. ... Rg1; 4. a7, Ra1; 5. Ra3!!, bxa3; 6. a8±

V c

Henri again presents us with the same idea: 1. Re4+, Kc3; 2. Rd4!, Kxd4; 3. d7, d1Q; 4. d8R+!! and wins.

VI a

The Henri Rinck study simply presents the Excelsior Theme (promotion of a pawn leaving its initial square). 1. Kd5, Be5; 2. g3+, Kf5; 3. g4+, Kf6; 4. g5+, Kf5; 5. g6 and wins.

VIb

1. Qf3!, Qg4+; 2. Qxg4+, hxg4; 3. h5+, Kg7; 4. h6+ followed by 5. h7 and h8Q and wins.

This is also the theme of the next position.

VIc

1. c4!, d4; 2. c5, Be8; 3. cxb6, a6; 4. b7+!, Kc7; 5. b8Q+ and the Blacks throw in the sponge for, if 5. ... Rxb8, 6. Rxb8, Nxb8; 7. Ba5+, Kc8; 8. Qe4! and wins.

VII a

In this position, Tarrasch abondons the game. He could have drawn in the following manner: 1. h6!, Rb6; 2. Rh5, a2; 3. h7, Rb8; 4. Rb5+!!, Rxb5; 5. h8Q+, =.

VII b

In the Rinck study, White wins with exactly the same idea: 1. e7, Re4; 2. Rh3+, Ka4(b4); 3. Rh4!, Rxh4; 4. e8Q±.

Troitzki also composed a very similar study, don't you know.

*************the end ********************

SOMETHING NEW FOR CHESS ENTHUSIASTS

George Koltanowski has started something new!!! For only $2.00 you may receive 3 booklets on specialized chess subjects and a tournament book a year! No. 1 of the series "QUEEN SACRIFICE" is already out. If I can still count, there are ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY Queen sacrifices in the issue. So, send your $2.00 right away to George Koltanowski, 3049 Laguna St., San Francisco 23, California, for the 1930 3 booklets + special bonus of the tournament book.

Chess Friends of Northern California
1960 Open Tournament

Do not miss the tournament which will be held for all classes of chess players at the Oakland Y.M.C.A. on February 27th and 28th, 1960. It will be the usual Five-Round Swiss on the Saturday and Sunday and there will also be a Sunday only Tournament. There will be the usual fine prizes. So, reserve this week-end right away and await the special notice and entry forms.

San Bruno Chess Club News

Wade Hendricks of South San Francisco was crowned the new "10-second per move" champion of the San Bruno Chess Club. He won the title in a club Round Robin, tournament rules, over Roy Willis, 2nd., and Louis Tomori, San Bruno, 3rd. Anyone interested in playing chess in the San Bruno area are cordially invited to attend the regular Monday night meetings.

"Newcomers Tournament"at the San Bruno Chess Club

Here is a new idea from the versatile brains of San Bruno. It is, of course, a tournament, with prizes, for the new members of the Club and anyone who would like to be a new member before the play begins. Other clubs might try this idea out. Results of the tournament are not yet to hand.

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Don't be a Beatnik - be a Chessnik!

"Chess in Action" Correspondence Chess Competition

We were pleasantly surprised to get quite an entry for this. The entries, unfortunately, were received in two bursts. Almost as soon as the last edition had appeared, we received nine entries. Then followed ten days with none. So, imagining that no additional ones would be received and believing that those who had entered would soon be wanting some recognition, we closed the competition and sent out the results of the draw. Almost immediately, we received quite a few additional entrants and had to turn them down. However, now we have one CCC under way, maybe we can start another. If anyone would like to put their names down on a permanent register for Postal Chess, we would undoubtedly be able to get something else started.

Starters in the C.C.C. were:

Oliveira vs. O'Quin
Cranbourne vs. Anders or Schutt
Hubert vs. Ladyman
Wildey vs. Dahl

It should be a good contest, as the entrants appear to be all in the same class range.

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Just to fill up an odd corner, if you would like to put something a little new and different into your chesslife, may we suggest that you might try the BRITISH CHESS MAGAZINE or EUROPE-ECHECS?

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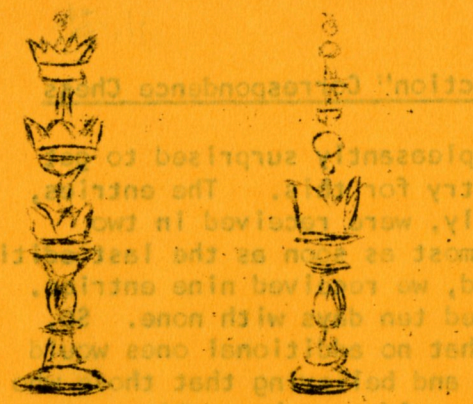
HOW WILLY NILLY BECAME A KING (CONTINUED)

The Barao beckoned the two men and walked to a table in the middle of his Chess Museum. He lifted a wooden lid off the table to disclose beneath a giant chessboard and men. Each chessman was a tsantsa, or shrunken head, mounted on an ivory base. The black pieces were obviously the heads of Jivaro indians but the white pieces were just as obviously the heads of white men, for the skin was lighter, the hair more closely cropped, and some of the pieces even had small moustaches! One of the white pieces appeared to be missing.

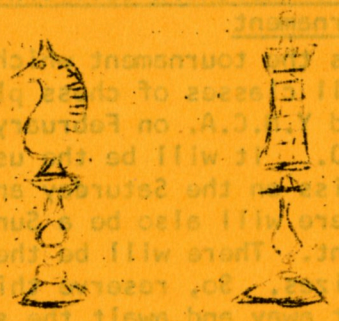
"I've had the deuce of a time getting the white peices", said the Barao to the Visconde, as he opened the box and lifted out Willy's head, now shrunk to the size of an apple, and mounted on an ivory base. The Barao placed it on the vacant King's square and carefully fitted a little jewelled crown on the head.

"Olha", he said, "the White King completes my set!"

********** **********

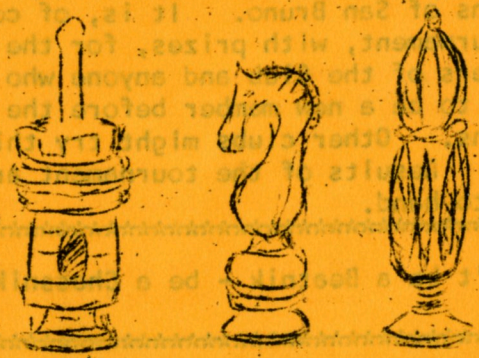


COMMON FRENCH TRADITIONAL



TYPICAL DIEPPE IVORY SET

MADRAS PAWN



SPANISH PULPIT PIECES

PAWNS

TOP PART OF KING

RAT-FACED CHINESE SET

COLLECTING CHESSMEN

A good beginning as a Collector of Chessmen is to obtain a copy of Hammond's 'Chessmen". This is obtainable from most libraries. A better book on Chessmen, though not too easy to obtain, is the book on the same subject by D. M. Liddell of New York. On the opposite page, we have endeavoured to reproduce (though we fear this will not turn out too successfully) a few of the more interesting chess sets that would form the nucleus of a good collection.

The set at the top of the page is a common French traditional set. They were made very cheaply in Paris from the middle of the 17th Century until after the French Revolution in 1789. Such sets are of bone or ivory and were never made commercially. When a French family wanted such a set, a craftsman was commissioned to make it (usually a stud and button craftsman). All these sets differ to some extent from each other, although the royals (King and Queen) are usually of the same design. When you consider that people were playing on these sets before the United States of America came into being, it is remarkable that one can today still buy such sets, in perfect condition, for as little as $28.00!

The second set on the opposite page is a typical Dieppe ivory set, late 18th Century. A large version of this design was mounted on stakes and used to play on the sands at Dieppe. Such sets, for board use, cost $85.00 - $170.00. Personally, we do not find this set anything like as interesting or elegant as the common traditional French pieces and we would suggest leaving this set until the following three sets had been acquired.

After purchasing a French traditional (or "little Dieppe) set, we would recommend the set in the bottom right-hand corner. This is a common Spanish playing set, made in bone, and usually referred to as "pulpit" pieces. Such sets cost from $70.00 to $170.00 depending on size, carving, and quality.

Next, we would suggest acquiring a Madras set, as depicted in the middle of the page. Such sets are traditional mid-19th-century pieces made in ivory and lacquer. Similar sets have been used in India for at least 500 years and almost up to the present day. Such sets go right back to the beginnings of Chess history. The Rook is the towered elephant; the Knight is the horsemen; the Bishop is the soldier on a camel, and the royals are elephants with howdahs. Some of these sets are extremely ornate, especially the King and Queen pieces. Fairly good sets are obtainable for $140.00 - $300.00.

Now we come to the most interesting of the sets depicted - a late 18th Century Chinese set in which all the pieces are depicted as rats. Both sides are in white ivory and, tho the two sides are somewhat different in design, they would not be too easy to play with but for the fact that one side have rubies for eyes while the other side has amber eyes. Of course, the direction in which the pieces are facing also helps. It is amazing that such sets are still available but they can be purchased for around $360.00.

Where are such sets bought? There are dealers in chesssets and chessmen (many collectors collect single pieces from broken sets - and this, of course, works out much less expensively) in most capital cities of the world but we believe that as reasonable a dealer as any, and one of fine repute, is Mackett Beeson, Chess Specialist, of 26 Carnaby Street, Regent Street, London W.1, England. Mr. A.E.J.Beeson would be delighted to write you a long letter on any chess set you might feel interested in acquiring. Furthermore, any set bought from this firm will be supported by a certificate of age and origin and, as an antique, may be imported into the U.S. without duty. Such chessets would, we feel, always bring their original cost, on a resale and would be a good investment as well as being a joy to behold.

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1959 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CHESS FRIENDS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Cash on Hand - January 1, 1959			$ 690.24
Receipts - 1959			
Membership Dues	$1324.00		
Tournament Entries	669.00		
League Board Fees	112.00		
Deposits (Forfeit Fees)	66.00		2171.00
Total Receipts			$2861.24
Expenditures - 1959			
Services:			
Secretary	$ 240.00		
League Director	90.00		
Oakland Tournament	50.00		
Expert Tournament	40.00		
San Jose Tournament	50.00		
Clerical	20.00	$ 490.00	
Expenses:			
Postage	$ 276.80		
Editor	40.00		
Secretary	70.46		
Travel & misc.	115.50		
Mimeo. paper & Stencils	185.56		
Servicing Mimeo.	5.00		
Checkbook	5.00	$ 698.32	
Miscellaneous:			
Trophies	$ 192.87		
Lapel Pins (3 yr. supply)	162.80		
Cash Prizes (Expert Tournament)	125.00		
Refunded Deposits	51.00		
Book Prizes	58.20		
Rentals (Tournaments)	50.00		
File Cabinets	135.73		
USCF Dues	10.00		
Treasurers Bond	10.00	$795.60	
Total Expenditures			$1983.92
Cash on hand December 31, 1959			$ 877.32

Membership:

January 1, 1959 588
December 31, 1959 681